THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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1	36,800	17	36,300
2	36,130	18	36,150
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5	35,300	21	36,410
6	36,340	22	36,140
7	36,500	23	36,250
8	36,290	24	36,460
9	36,380	25	36,540
10	36,410	26	35,100
11	36,320	27	36,140
12	35,150	28	37,120
13	36,480	29	36,060
14	36,260	30	36,220
15	36,350	31	36,080
16	36,100		
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GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK,
Treasurer.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of February, 1908.
ROBERT HUNTER,
Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

A scientist now asserts that even hen's eggs are not free from germs and microbes. Boil your eggs.

Of course, the bean which made Lima famous will be on the menu at all banquets to the American sailors during their stay in Peru.

"Americans chase the dollar until they drop dead," said Mr. Bryan to a Montreal audience. On that subject Mr. Bryan speaks as an expert.

A convict has been pardoned in Arkansas on account of some poetry he wrote. They have a faculty of doing things by contraries in that state.

Once-defeated-candidate Shallenberger has stacked up his chips and called for another hand. Is Mayor "Jim" going to stand for that bluff?

Why is it that a man is never considered a real candidate for presidential honors until the papers begin printing pictures of his birthplace?

Some Maryland people insist that their bachelor governor should wed. He will probably answer that it is his duty to govern, not to be governed.

That New York bankrupt who wept when asked to cut his living expenses to less than $50,000 a year doubtless blames President Roosevelt for the panic.

An Arizona sheep shearer has a record of removing 325 fleeces in nine hours. A man with fleecing ability like that belongs in Wall street and not in Arizona.

In the printed list of equipment carried by the New York to Paris autoists no mention was made of snow plows, which appear to have been the first things needed.

According to the World-Herald, Roosevelt favors Taft—therefore, every real friend of Roosevelt should favor some one else. That's democratic logic for you.

Regardless of the two-thirds rule in democratic national conventions, any man who can get Colonel Bryan to second his motion at Denver will not fear any poll of the delegates.

The novelist, Owen Wister, was defeated by about three to one for the job of alderman in Philadelphia. Wister has found real fiction in the ante-election promises of ward workers.

Former Premier Franco of Portugal says he wants to go where he will not be disturbed by the whirl of politics. He might get desk room at the headquarters of the Foraker presidential boom.

And now it is denied that Bryan has picked Shallenberger as the man to make the race for governor on the democratic ticket. Never mind, he will pick the man later, if he has not already done so, and his edict will go.

Ever notice how clearly defined the property line between lots is during the snow shoveling season? The man who will throw water all over the neighbor's lot in the lawn sprinkling term can give a surveyor points in definite measurement when it comes to the question of clearing the sidewalk in front of adjoining property.

"GHOSTS OF THE PAST."

In his address at the Washington birthday anniversary banquet at Buffalo Secretary Taft urged upon his hearers and upon the country the importance of action looking to the breaking up and elimination of sectional lines, so far as they divide our political party organizations. In his address at Kansas City recently the secretary declared that the time had come when it was the duty of the republican party to make an earnest effort to win to its support the southern men who are republicans in heart, thought and principle, but who have been kept from the republican ranks by "the ghost of the past." In his speech at Buffalo, dwelling again on this thought, he said:

> Washington deprecated in the strongest terms a sectional party, and it is true that one of the great parties finds much of its strength today in the south, while the other party is almost wholly without voting strength there. This condition is due, not to present living issues, but to the ghosts of the past, and to the fear of a recurrence of conditions that are utterly impossible. May we not in the next decade, therefore, look to a change in this respect, so that the two great parties shall be nearly equally distributed through all of the states of the union, and the peaceful political battleground be spread south of Mason and Dixon's line as it is today north of that line.

The soundness and wisdom of Mr. Taft's proposition cannot be questioned. The fault, be it said, is not wholly with the south. While it is true that for many years after the war social pride, caste, memory of reconstruction day horrors and carpet-bagger abuses practically compelled the south to be solidly democratic, no living reason now exists for the continuance of sectionalism in political organizations. A new south, social, commercial and industrial, has been built on the ruins of the war. The iron fields of Alabama, the coal and timber resources of the Carolinas, Tennessee and Georgia, the agricultural riches of all the south, have been developed and awakened by northern enterprise and northern capital, and today the south stands ready to take its part in the duty and privilege of national government, from which it has stood aside for nearly two generations. Henry W. Grady, perhaps the ablest statesman the newer south has produced, nearly twenty years ago challenged a northern audience with this question:

> Why is it, though the sectional line be now but a mist that the breath may dispel, fewer men of the north have crossed it over to the south than when it was crimson with the blood of the republic, or even when the slaveholder stood guard every inch of its way? The key that opens that problem will unlock to the world the fairer half of this republic and free the halted feet of thousands whose eyes are already kindled with its beauty. Better than this, it will open the hearts of brothers for thirty years estranged, and clasp in lasting comradeship a million hands now withheld in doubt.

In a commercial and industrial way the north has answered Mr. Grady's question. There is no longer north nor south in our commerce or industry. The sectional division is purely political. The south has persisted in expressing fear of political "ghosts" that have been laid for thirty years. The democratic politicians of the south have found it to their purpose to keep the fear alive, while the republicans of the north have done little to allay it. It is time, as Mr. Taft urges, to nationalize both parties thoroughly. When earnest effort is made in that direction the democratic party in the north will have better excuse for existence and both the great parties and all the people will be benefited.

RAILROAD REAL ESTATE RETURNS.

In response to an inquiry by County Assessor Shriver an opinion has been rendered over the name of Deputy County Attorney Magney to guide the assessor in listing railroad real estate for taxation under the new terminal tax law. The gist of this opinion from the county attorney's office is all to be found in this paragraph:

> I have investigated the matter and I am of the opinion that the railroad company is not legally required to return any portion of the streets and alleys occupied by it, unless it owns them and has acquired title to them. This can be determined by an examination of the record in the register of deeds office.

One reading of this opinion would enable the railroads to claim tax exemption on all the land they occupy, which at any time was used for streets and alleys, provided the records in the register of deeds office do not show them to possess the title in fee simple. If they can establish this rule the railroads hereafter will never acquire title to streets and alleys vacated for their benefit, but will go on using the real estate without paying taxes upon it.

It seems to us that the question whether the railroads should return for taxation tracts of land which they occupy should depend on whether they have exclusive use of the land. The Union Pacific shops, the Union Pacific and Burlington freight and passenger depots occupy sites which include vacated streets and alleys and it is possible that some of this land, although held by the railroads for forty years or more, may never have been transferred on the register of deeds records, although it is nonetheless theirs by continuous possession. To exempt them from taxation on this real estate, which they acquired practically for nothing, would be simply requiring other property owners to pay the taxes for them.

On the other hand, the railroads occupy many streets and alleys for sidetracks and spurs without exercising any exclusive rights to them. These streets and alleys have not been vacated, but continue open for public use as well as for the terminal trackage of the railroads. While the railroads should not be required here to list such real estate in their tax returns, their rights-of-way in these streets and alleys constitute easements which, according to all the law books, are real property and should be listed and assessed at whatever they are worth for taxation as real estate. If compelled to give up their trackage in these streets and alleys the railroads would claim big damages and they ought to be willing to pay taxes upon them at a fair valuation.

If the railroads are going to stand upon technicalities as to just what real estate the records of the register of deeds office show to have been transferred to them in full ownership, the city may also stand upon technicalities and insist upon the restoration as streets and alleys of all real estate occupied by the railroads on which they decline to pay taxes.

MEETING A LAW PROBLEM.

The Louisville & Nashville railway has come to the relief of the railroad managers of the country, who have been worried greatly over the prospective enforcement of a clause in the railway rate law prohibiting transportation companies from operating coal mines whose output it transports to the market. This clause was not to take effect until May 1, 1908, in order to give the railroads nearly two years to get out of the coal business. No steps have been taken by the roads other than to petition congress to grant an extension of time, and congress and the Interstate Commerce commission have shown no disposition to grant further time.

In this emergency, the Louisville & Nashville railway has apparently found a way out. Formal announcement is made that it has complied with the law. The method is as simple and easy as rolling off a log. The title to the coal lands and mines originally rested in the railway company. At the expense of making out some new deeds, the company has conveyed the property to its shareholders as individuals. The coal mines are no longer owned by the railroad company, even though owned by the same persons who own the railroad. The shareholders have elected the same officials to manage the coal mines that they have chosen to operate their railway property, but the letter of the law has been complied with and eminent attorneys contend that the new reorganization will stand the test of the courts.

The original intent of the law was to prevent railroads from owning and operating coal mines to the injury of independent mines. It was developed in the anthracite strike investigation some years ago that the coal-carrying roads were the actual owners of most of the mines and had operated them in a manner, by the manipulation of freight rates and other transportation expenses, to shut competitors from the market. If the plan adopted by the Louisville & Nashville railway enables the company to evade the spirit of the law, while complying with the letter of it, congress may be faced with the duty of devising other means of breaking up one of the most offensive forms of railway discrimination that has ever oppressed the public.

THE CHINESE LOOT SCANDAL.

Nothing but humiliation for Americans can come from the congressional inquiry announced to be made into the auction recently held in New York of what is frankly admitted to be loot from the imperial palace at Peking, stolen during the siege of the legations in 1900. Our people have more than passing interest in the matter, because the articles sold were collected by the wife of the American minister to China at that time. No effort has been made to conceal the character of the wares offered at the auction. The circulars and advertisements announcing the sale thus described them:

> Antique and modern Chinese porcelains, enamels, brasses, bronzes, jades, ivory carvings, lacquers, Buddhas, ancient weapons, a great number of imperial and mandarin robes, original rolls of rich silk and gold brocades (which were made for the imperial household), beautiful embroideries and palace hangings, etc., etc., all collected prior to and after the siege of the legations in Peking in 1900 by the widow of the American minister to China during the Boxer rebellion.

The auction has served to recall the story of the looting of the Chinese imperial palace, an incident which the civilized nations that took part in the affair would be glad to forget. The vandals, who wore uniforms of all nations, found rich pickings at Peking, after their march to relieve the foreign legations beleaguered there by the Boxers. Anarchy reigned in the Chinese capital. The court and the imperial family had fled and temples, palaces, bazars and the homes of the rich mandarins were sacked ruthlessly by the foreign invaders and the native mobs. Porcelains, bronzes, jades, ivory carvings, art objects of rare intrinsic value and intense historic interest were taken by the cartload by drunken soldiers and given away or sold for a mere trifle to enthusiastic "collectors," who, by reason of their residence in China, estimated this loot at its financial value and picked up rare bargains for future profit.

The loss to China of these valuable art objects cuts no figure in the case. Money could not replace the sacred relics, the historical carvings and other objects exchanged for the price of a drink. Americans are concerned only by the spectacle of an auction of stolen goods and the criminality of its possession advertised as an attraction to prospective purchasers. We are supposed to have laws which punish "fences" for receiving stolen property and which give owners the right to reclaim their own. There should be some international law, if there is not, against fences for this sort of loot. The morality of the auction in question cannot be defended on any grounds.

While the city council is scraping around to make the money in the intersection paving fund go as far as possible, it can do something in those paving districts where failure of the property owners to designate the material leaves it to the council to say what kind of paving shall be laid, assuming that there is no substantial difference in quality or desirability, by designating the material that can be laid for the least money. The amount saved may pay for one or two additional intersections, which would carry with it two or three additional blocks of paving.

The coming meeting of the Nebraska State Press association at Lincoln should be one of the best in the history of that organization, in view of the large number of head-liners who are on the program. People in nearly every business or profession fraternize nowadays, at least once a year, for mutual benefit, and the editors of Nebraska newspapers will do well to attend these meetings, even if they have to put themselves out a little in order to get together on propositions in which their interests are identical.

The anti-Taft spokesmen are now apologizing for the poor showing they are making in the various county primaries and blaming it on to the midwinter weather. But the date of the republican state convention was fixed by resolution offered by the particular sponsor of the statewide primary scheme through whom the anti-Taft malcontents were working. Having fixed the date themselves, it is not for them to complain about bad weather.

Chief Donahue's note of caution to the police to be careful not to discriminate on the color line in the handling of prisoners is timely, although it ought not to be necessary. The law knows only law-abiding citizens and law-breaking citizens, and as law officers the police should treat all offenders alike under similar conditions whether they be white, black or heathen Chinee.

The slate for the "Big Four" to represent Illinois in the republican national convention consists of the two United States senators, the governor of the state and the mayor of Chicago. Illinois republicans evidently have no prejudice against commissioning as delegates those already carrying official honors.

"Mr. Morgan did not cease buying art works even during the panic," says a New York paper. We understand that he added the Tennessee Coal and Iron company, the Knickerbocker Trust company and a number of like bric a brac to his collection when the financial pinch was on.

Omaha banks show increased deposits as compared with the corresponding time last year of nearly $2,000,000, but loans increased by less than $200,000. While the banks are in fine condition, it will not do to infer that the panic has not had some effect on business.

Sentor Brown has already gotten a bill through the upper branch of congress, increasing the amount to be expended on the new public building at Kearney from $85,000 to $110,000. A $25,000 present for his home town at the first pop out of the box is doing tolerably well.

It is claimed that the rarefied air at Denver makes it impossible for an orator to shout for more than five minutes. Bourke Cockran and "Billy" Sulzer will give rarefied air a chance to go out and make a new record when they get to the Denver convention.

"Are there any dangerous wild animals in the south?" asks a reader. From newspaper reports we infer that blind tigers are on the rampage in Georgia and in some parts of Kentucky seeking whom they may devour.

Dr. Wiley and his poison squad have tackled about all the dangerous things in the eating line except those "dollar dinners" that are being served at democratic banquets.

"Viewed with Alarm."
Washington Post.

Now comes the distressing news that the nearest bar to the hall in which the democratic convention will be held in Denver is a mile distant.

A Big Public Problem.
St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Forest preservation is about to become one of the big public questions. Unless the trees are looked after we shall become short on timber and long on floods.

A Timely Discount.
Baltimore American.

The Simplified Spelling board has reduced debt to "det," but if it could take one-quarter off every debt, the vast army of debtors would feel that the board had existed to some purpose.

Not in the Running.
Washington Star.

Denial by Mr. Shaw that he has authorized the use of his name in connection with the presidency shows a proper appreciation of the fact that a self-conducted boom has comparatively little show.

Booms to the Right and Left.
St. Louis Times.

The Cannon boom in Illinois, the Knox boom in Pennsylvania, the Hughes boom in New York, the Fairbanks boom in Indiana, the Shaw boom in Iowa and the several Taft booms are but preliminary to the big noise at Chicago. Tickets for the June convention ought to command a premium for the party elephant is booked to do some of the most engaging stunts of his long career in the political ring.

ON PRESIDENTIAL FIRING LINE.

Effect of the President's Special Message in the West.
Minneapolis Journal (rep.).

Last Saturday the Nebraska delegation in congress was astonished to read in the newspapers that Lancaster county, called the index county of the state, had declared for Roosevelt for another term. The significance of this action is in its revelation of the effect of the president's special message in the west. It has solidified the progressive elements in the republican party. Many distinguished republicans besought the president not to publish the message for fear of its effect upon Taft's fortunes. Whether the president believed it would seriously affect Taft or not is not known, but it is known that he believed the message to be necessary, whatever its effect on personal fortunes, his own or Taft's. Now it appears that the "prudent politicians" were all wrong about the message, as it has not hurt Taft. It has made it impossible for any reactionary to beat Taft. Nobody in the republican party can beat him except the president himself, and he is not a candidate.

Taft's Good Luck Month.
Detroit Free Press (ind.).

March has always been a month when things happened to Mr. Taft. His first official recognition, appointment as deputy internal collector, came to him in that month. Resigning it after a short time, he took up the practice of law in that month. He was first elevated to the bench in Cincinnati in that month. His designation to his federal judgeship came to him in that month. Then after eight years on the federal bench and when nothing seemed more unlikely than that he should ever have a career other than a judicial career, he was named in March president of the first Philippine commission, and began the new century as the man on whom more than any other responsibility rested for the future of that archipelago and the future of the new policy undertaken by this country at the close of the Spanish war. As Mr. Roosevelt's successor, he will be inaugurated in March, 1909.

The Favorite Son Game.
Baltimore News (ind.).

An interesting development in the contest for the republican nomination for president, especially in connection with the movement in various states for "favorite sons" who haven't a ghost of a show of landing the prize, is the increasing sentiment against "sons" who there is reason to believe are being kept in the race in the hope of aiding to head off Taft. In Illinois, for instance, a boom is being pushed for Mr. Cannon, and there is every expectation that he will have the Illinois vote in the convention. Now, while "Uncle Joe" is a mighty fine old fellow and has a great many friends, it is difficult to take him as a serious candidate for the presidency. He is now over three score years and ten, for one reason, to say nothing of other arguments which may be brought against his availability. The most plausible explanation of his entry into the race—unless it be a pardonable exhibition of vanity to show how well he is regarded in his own state—is that he wants to down Taft and the president's policies.

Taft and Hughes.
Baltimore American (rep.).

Here, then, is a ticket that from the point of view of the excellence of the men, because of its distribution and the welding of the various sentimental elements in the party, would make not only for strength, but for national enthusiasm. It is to be doubted whether there has ever been put forward a ticket that would be such a fine combination of all the forces and factors that a party needs in its efforts to carry the country. Before such a ticket all talk of factions would break down. Every argument of indecision and distrust would fail. Fear that the policies of the administration would not be wisely and conservatively carried out would be set at rest. The first magnetic effect the naming of Taft and Hughes would be to give confidence in business circles a boom and to promote industrial activity. Mr. Taft is the man of the nation. Mr. Hughes is one of the best state men in the country. Both are figures that loom large upon the national horizon. They are complimentary personalities. Each holds the other in the highest esteem. They would be effective in the same direction by different lines. They would make an ideal national ticket. Not a vestige of the force and strength of the nation's life would be missed from the ticket with these men at its head. Will the convention confirm the view of the people and name Taft and Hughes?

Bryan's Supremacy.
Philadelphia Press (rep.).

In 1892, when Cleveland was the democratic candidate for president, Wisconsin went democratic. Four years later Bryan lost the state by 102,000, and four years after that the republican majority was 104,000.

This was not in the enemy's country. It was in the bounding west, where Bryanism goes, if it goes at all. With these figures staring it in the face the democratic convention of Wisconsin has declared that it wants as much more of Bryan as it can get, and has instructed its delegation for him first, last and all the time.

The Badger state is not singular in this, however. The democratic party in many other states has been so nearly ruined by the Bryan candidacy that there is not enough of it left to make a good sized protest.

Taft in Maine.
Lewiston Journal (rep.).

Taft wins in Ohio, four to one. Wherever the republicans are aroused to the issue, we believe that in any northern state they will support the Roosevelt policies by similar overwhelming majorities. Could we have a standup yea and nay vote of the republican voters of Maine, touching the Roosevelt policies and the presidential succession, we believe that Maine republicans would stand as firm for Roosevelt's policies as they stand in Ohio and elsewhere. It is important that the Roosevelt policies be appreciated before election lest there be misadventure of the demand of those who oppose the president's policies before nomination and later appeal to voters to support them in the campaign, that the president's policies may be better backed!

A Hopeless Plea.
Philadelphia Record (dem.).

Mr. Bryan is undoubtedly popular. So was Henry Clay, but he could not be president. So was James G. Blaine—no other man could evoke such hurrahs from the crowd. But when he ran for president he was beaten. These are the facts. Mr. Bryan may be everything his admirers believe him to be. But the most elementary political prudence demands that the democratic party shall nominate a fresh candidate.

Playing a Winner.
St. Paul Pioneer-Press (rep.).

Minnesota is not putting its money on the wrong horse when it picks Taft for the winner. He is already well into the home stretch, with the rest of the field nowhere in sight. He can only be beaten by skulduggery; and the only chance of skulduggery lies in the uninstructed delegation.

National Corn Show Facetiousness

New York Sun.

Omaha, the largest city in the state which Bryan comes from, is going to hold a national corn exposition late next fall. Everybody in Nebraska, and especially Omaha, is concerned to make the affair a gigantic success. The hustlers are already at work to that end, and when a Nebraskan starts to hustle the whole country is likely to know it.

Nevertheless some of the hustling which is being done seems not to be well advised. Rather we should say that if the Nebraskans were well advised they would be inspired by doubts about the corn fair when they consider the curious prosperity which promptly rewarded the hustling efforts in question. It appears that the secretary of the National Corn Growers' association spent the best part of last week in Chicago interviewing leading officers of the railroads running into Omaha with a view to enlisting the aid of the railroads in behalf of the exposition. Evidently there must have been a good deal of doubt in Omaha about the outcome of his mission, for we find that most jubilant proclamation is being made of the promise of the railroads to help in every way possible to make the corn exposition such a hummer as never was.

Everywhere Secretary Jones went it was the same story. The St. Paul would do everything in its power. So would the Burlington. The Rock Island could be counted upon. The Illinois Central would not be second to any other road. As for the Northwestern and Union Pacific, they could not have proffered assistance more eagerly if the exposition had been planned in their offices. From now on the railroads are going to devote all their time and energies to stirring the farmers along their lines to interest in the corn fair. Wherefore Omaha and all Nebraska are feeling decidedly cheerful just now over the exposition's prospects.

So much for the exposition, but do the Nebraskans do well to be so cheerful? There is something decidedly peculiar about the alacrity with which the railroads responded to the Macedonian cry. The frankness with which the representatives of predatory capital whom Secretary Jones approached talked about the effect which the exposition would have in improving the quality and growth of corn and their selfish interest in facilitating such a desirable consummation should not be allowed to disarm the suspicion which ought to be accorded to every capitalistic utterance. Everybody knows that the railroads never do anything which is not for their interest, unless they are compelled by patriotic legislators, rampant executives or consecrated commissions. Trojan fear of the gift-bearing Greeks should be a mild simile for the attitude of the Nebraska farmers toward this uncompelled move of the railroads which oppress them.

Now is a good time for the Nebraska farmer to assert his manhood. Why should he care to improve the quality and growth of his corn to the end that the railroads may have a richer freight traffic.

VOTE OF YOUNG MEN.

Considerations of Weight in Deciding Party Affiliation.
St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

At each presidential election at least a million voters exercise the right of suffrage for the first time. For the most part, this new element in directing political affairs is composed of young men who have reached their majority since the last preceding national election. This vote might easily be the determining factor and is always to be considered in making an estimate of the situation. Outworn issues, ideas and prejudices would last much longer but for the change in the individualities of the electorate that is continually going on. In the last twelve years majorities and pluralities in presidential years have been unusually heavy, and it must be presumed that the new voters have largely inclined to the side that, during the most of this period, has had full control of all branches of the government. In many cases the young voter follows the ancestral political line, for it is prominently one of the family traditions. But this tendency is not so strongly marked as in former years. Politics touches the business of Americans at so many points that "the grandfather's hat" is more likely to be a valued relic than a present political force. Issues wholly unknown to any former period present themselves and can not be settled by precedent on defined party precept.

A paper in Charleston, S. C., asserts that "nearly all democrats under 21 are for Bryan." That may be true in the southern states, in which only one party is allowed a right to exist. It is not the case in the other states. In 1904 the republican vote in South Carolina was under 3,000, though Roosevelt would naturally be more attractive than Parker to young men. If Bryan were a strong young men's candidate he ought to have been a growing champion in his own state. But his vote in Nebraska was smaller in 1900 than in 1896, and it was only in his first contest that he carried the state. Young voters have been coming forward steadily in Nebraska, yet the republican vote has just as steadily been growing. At its latest election Nebraska gave a remarkably heavy republican majority, though it was known at the time that Bryan was getting ready for a third battle in 1908. The young voters of Nebraska since 1896 have been many and they have largely turned away from the leadership as unsound.

Young voters certainly have a great stake in wise government. They are about to enter business, and as years run on will be called upon to carry its most serious responsibilities. Mistaken political policies will cost them dear. Years of business dullness and derangement give a poor reward, yet add to the labor and anxieties. Young men must largely fill the armies and navies. Their careers are ahead, and they help to shape them by their ballots. South Carolina is as poor a pattern among the states as Senator Tillman is among statesman, or as one-party rule is in arriving at an enlightened political judgment. No young man can afford to be politically fossilized, or to chase fallacious public policies. Bad politics will strike him, no matter what field he chooses for his efforts to get on in the world. Mr. Bryan is a sensational talker. As a business or political adviser he is a failure. The world is governed by facts, not by shifty eloquence, and the majority of the young men of the United States know it.

NEGRO'S STRUGGLE IN NORTH.

Fierce Competition in the Field of Common Labor.
Ray Stannard Baker in American Magazine.

In the south the negro still has the field of manual labor largely to himself, he is unsharpened by competition; but when he reaches the northern city, he not only finds the work different and more highly organized and specialized, but he finds that he must meet the fierce competition of half a dozen eager, struggling, ambitious groups of foreigners, who are willing and able to work long hours at low pay in order to get a foothold. He has to meet often for the first time the Italian, the Russian Jew, the Slav, to say nothing of the white American laborer. He finds the pace set by competitive industry immensely harder than in most parts of the south.

No life in the world, perhaps, requires as much in brain and muscle of all classes of men as that of the vast northern cities in the United States. I have talked with many colored workmen and I am convinced that not a few of them fail, not because of their color, nor because they are lazy (negroes in the north are for the most part hard workers—they must be, else they starve or freeze), but for simple lack of speed and skill; they haven't learned to keep the pace set by the white man.

A Touching Boost.
Springfield Republican.

That oats-in-his-pocket, hayseed-in-his-hair eulogy upon Speaker Cannon in the house was very touching. It affected Mr. Cannon so that he withdrew to his private room, while the members of both parties cheered the added inflation supposed to have been imported to his presidential boom. At least a great pretension is being made in congressional quarters of taking this boom seriously.

Turn of Immigration Tide.
Springfield Republican.

Immigration into the country since January 1 has been less than half what it was in the same time last year, while emigration or steerage travel toward Europe has been about three and a half times larger than a year ago. There is not much in these figures to stir the immigration alarmists.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Eddie Foy, the actor, will be a neighbor of John D. Rockefeller in the Pocantico Hills section, having purchased a piece of ground there upon which he will build himself a fine villa.

At Altoona, Pa., seven men speaking different languages, no one of whom could understand any other, sat down and played draw poker. They coudn't exchange remarks, but that did not matter—money talks.

The young Connecticut man who called for a young woman with the intention of eloping with her and was received with a shower of hot water should cheer up. He might have found himself in hot water a little later anyhow if his plans had not miscarried.

James Otis Kaler of South Portland, Me., is a prolific writer for boys. He is the author of more than 100 books. He reads new manuscripts to his boy friends and if they do not listen with interest he throws the book aside and starts another. He had his first book published in 1878.

Judge William H. Wallace of Kansas City, Mo., who recently made a vigorous campaign for Sunday observance, has announced his candidacy for the democratic nomination for governor of Missouri. His platform declares for "the state-wide and permanent enforcement of the Sunday and liquor laws."

King Leopold of Belgium has conferred upon Cardinal Gibbons the grand cross of the Royal Order of the Crown, as a mark of his personal esteem and in recognition of his great services to the cause of Christianity and humanity throughout the world. Baron Moncheur, the Belgian minister at Washington, made the presentation. The cardinal is the first American to receive the decoration.

A bust of President Roosevelt, made by an association of artists of Uruguay, was taken to the State department on Monday from the Uruguayan legation with a request that arrangements be made for its presentation to the president at the White House. The bust is mounted on the back of an eagle with spread wings, the eagle resting on a miniature globe, on which are traced the outlines of North and South America.

LINES TO A LAUGH.

"Who was that blooming idiot I saw you with this afternoon?"

"Sir, that was my brother!"

"Pardon me, please—I might have known it!"—Cleveland Leader.

"But you promised to leave the house in the same condition in which you found it."

"So I am; I found it empty and I am leaving it that way."—Houston Post.

Capitalist—If I lend you the money to finance this aerial trip, what security can you give me?

Aeronaut (proudly)—My priceless balloon itself.

Capitalist—Excuse me, but in these times I'm not taking any inflated securities.—Baltimore American.

"Well," said the young lawyer, after he had heard his new client's story, "your case appears to be good. I think we can secure a verdict without much trouble."

"That's what I told my wife," said the man, "and yet she insisted at first that we ought to engage a first-class lawyer."—Philadelphia Press.

"George Washington was a great man—father of his country—never told a lie—first in war—"

"Yes, I know," answered the cold politician. "He was a fine man. And what press agents he seems to have had."—Washington Star.

"Clarence," said his indulgent relative, "your reckless ways and your ceaseless requests for money discourage and disgust me. Have you no soul?"

"Nary a one, Aunt Hepsy," answered her scapegrace nephew, with a scowl. "Haven't I told you I am on my uppers?"—Chicago Tribune.

"Listen!" said he, holding up his finger.

"Listen to what?"

"To two hearts that beat as one."

"S-s-h! That's Johnny under the sofa; he's just got one of those dollar watches."—Houston Post.

"Bring me the morning paper," said the king.

"Your majesty," replied the premier, "I wish first to call your attention to certain affairs of state that—"

"Never mind them," interrupted the king impatiently, "I want to see whether I have been assassinated or not."

Going to the front door, the premier whistled to a passing newsboy.—Philadelphia Ledger.

WHEN THE WORM TURNETH.

He was such a pretty little tyke,
The talk of all the town;
His doting mother dressed him up—
His father dressed him down.

In bygone days when he was such
A tiny little thing,
His joy and pride were centered in
Two mittens on a string.

But when a little maid he spied
Whose fingers were frostbitten,
His childish heart was touched, he gave
To her each precious mitten.

But since he is a man full grown,
And with this maiden smitten,
Quick restitution now she makes—
She gives to him—the "mitten."

In childhood days he ran away,
Folks said he was a clipper,
But when he gave his ma the slip,
His pa gave him the slipper.

The slippers he received were felt,
And warm—yes, piping hot!
And where they lit I'm sure they hit
A mighty tender spot.

But now conditions are reversed—
To his father old and gray
He gives warm slippers of soft felt,
A gift on each birthday.

And father dear is strangely touched,
In fact, is quite unstrung;
The slippers touch a tender spot,
Yet father is not stung.

Omaha. B. K. T.